

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5, 7, and 10-13 remain pending in the above-identified application and stand ready for further action on the merits.

Request for Personal Interview with Patent Examiner before first Office Action

Applicant's representative respectfully requests a personal interview with the Patent Examiner before the issuance of any Office Action. The Examiner will be contacted within about one month from the filing of this Request for Continued Examination, i.e. at the beginning of October, in order to schedule the interview.

Response to Points Raised in Advisory Action

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner expresses reasons why the claims are not allowable. Applicants traverse these reasons and request reconsideration.

The Advisory Action states that it would be obvious to employ a volume of 300 cc which was "...common at the time of the invention" and employ the center of gravity distance feature disclosed by Rugge '160 (U.S. Patent 5,851,160). However, just as Rugge '160 kept it constant from 235 cc to 285 cc. Further, the Examiner states that Oonuki '777 (U.S. Patent 5,348,777) shows that it is known to have center of gravity distances in a range of values as suitable selections without any limitation with regard to head volume.

However, Rugge '160 fails to disclose or suggest a head volume of 300 cc or the "V-C relationship" of the present invention (see claim 1). Further, the asserted basis for modifying the club had volume of Rugge '160 to be 300 cc is based on improper hindsight reconstruction, since

the other cited references fail to mention the relevant features of Rugge '160 associated with the described Δ2 distance range. Further, it is improper to reject the present invention by combining the cited references which are inconsistent with each other.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejections of the claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above arguments, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

By


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